

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 03510 101359Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 ONY-00 /011 W
-----101402Z 105801 /42

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1820
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3510

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR KUX, NEA/INS FROM SCHNEIDER; NEA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TECH, IN
SUBJECT: TARAPUR: COMMENTS ON TARAPUR MEMORANDUM

1. I HAVE THREE COMMENTS ON YOUR TARAPUR MEMORANDUM.

A. I AGREE WITH BILL COURTNEY THAT ON PAGE 2 IN THE
PARAGRAPH LABELED TARAPUR AGREEMENTS, THE SENTENCE ON USE
BY INDIA OF US HEAVY WATER IS MISLEADING. PERHAPS THIS
COULD BE HANDLED IN A FOOTNOTE. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU MIGHT
REVISE THIS SENTENCE AS FOLLOWS: "CRITICS HAVE ALLEGED
THAT TWO INDIAN ACTIONS WERE SUFFICIENT REASON TO TERMINATE
FUEL SUPPLY OR AT LEAST TO OBTAIN STRONGER SAFEGUARD
ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RETURN OF THE SPECIAL FUEL. THE FIRST
IS INDIA'S 1974 TEST. THE SECOND IS THE TECHNICALITY THAT
INDIA, BY MIXING LIMITED AMOUNTS OF US HEAVY WATER WITH
ITS MUCH LARGER DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED SUPPLIES AND THEN
USING A PORTION OF THAT TO FABRICATE ITS DEVICE, EMPLOYED
US HEAVY WATER IMPROPERLY."

B. ON THE TOP OF PAGE 4 OF THE MEMORANDUM PROPOSES
INFORMING THE INDIANS THAT ANOTHER TEST WOULD RESULT IN
TERMINATION OF THE SUPPLY ARRANGEMENT. I SUGGEST THAT THIS
LANGUAGE BETTER TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AMBASSADOR SAXBE'S
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STATEMENT TO CHAVAN THAT "IF INDIANS TESTED AGAIN, THE
WHOLE TARAPUR MATTER WOULD BE UPSET". PERHAPS THE
MEMORANDUM MIGHT SAY, "REAFFIRM MORE CLEARLY TO THE INDIANS
THAT ANOTHER TEST WOULD RESULT IN TERMINATION", ETC.

C. THE FINAL SENTENCE IN NUMBERED PARAGRAPH 2 OF PAGE
4 IMPLIES THAT THE INDIANS WILL NOT REPROCESS US ORIGIN
FUEL IF WE GO THROUGH A PHASED TERMINATION. WHILE SUCH A

TERMINATION MIGHT DELAY INDIAN USE OF THEIR REPROCESSING
FACILITY, ANY DECISION TO TERMINATE COULD EVENTUALLY RESULT
IN REPROCESSING IN INDIA OF FUEL FROM THE TARAPUR REACTOR.
THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH SUCH REPROCESSING OCCURRED MIGHT
DEPEND ON THE DEGREE OF SOVIET INSISTENCE ON FULL CYCLE
SAFEGUARDS FOR ALL FUEL THEY MIGHT PROVIDE TO INDIA.
SCHNEIDER

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Disposition Reason:
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